

ECFS - Email Filing
<PROCEEDING>96-45
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<CONTACT-EMAIL>robertaloewen@hotmail.com
<TEXT>Gentlemen:

Please reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund.

It terrifies me.

I can NOT afford to pay more for my telephone service! I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable. Because of financial crisis, we have dropped everything but the most basic of services just to stay barely functional - and we do not make long distance calls. It is unfair to penalize those of us who are struggling to maintain our basic essentials in this modern world, Like heat, water and a phone.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is unfair!

I use my pre-paid wireless phone for safety, security and to be available to my 85yr old mother, who often needs me on short notice. I don't want to lose this important essential so that big businesses can pay less than their fair share. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

Roberta Loewen
18004 29 Ave NE
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